

PATENT
Serial No. 09/787,339
Amendment in Reply to Advisory Action mailed on April 12, 2005

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Advisory Action mailed on April 12, 2006, and the Final Office Action mailed December 21, 2005, which have been reviewed and carefully considered. An Amendment was filed by facsimile on April 3, 2006 along with a Petition for Extension of Time extending the time period for reply by one month to April 21, 2006. The Advisory Action indicated that the Amendment filed on April 3, 2006 was not entered.

By means of the present amendment, claims 9, 12-26 and 28-29 have been canceled without prejudice, and claims 1 and 10-11 have been amended. Claims 1-8, 10-11 and 27 remain pending in this application, with claims 1 and 10 being the only independent claims.

Reconsideration of the present application and entry of the present amendment are respectfully requested.

By means of the present amendment, the current Abstract has been deleted and substituted with the enclosed New Abstract which better conforms to U.S. practice. Further, the specification has

PATENT
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been amended to correct certain informalities noted upon review and for better conformance to U.S. practice.

By means of the present amendment, claim 11 has been amended to add a period at the end. Claim 11 was not amended in order to address issues of patentability and Applicants respectfully reserve all rights they may have under the Doctrine of Equivalents.

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 9-11 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that claims 9-11 contain allowable subject matter.

By means of the present amendment, claim 10 has been written in independent form, and claim 1 has been amended to include the features of allowable claim 9 which has been cancelled without prejudice.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 10 should be allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-8, 11 and 27 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from amended independent claims 1 and 10.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or

PATENT
Serial No. 09/787,339
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averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

It is believed that no additional fees or charges are currently due. However, in the event that any additional fees or charges are required for entrance of the accompanying amendment, they may be charged to Applicants' representatives Deposit Account No. 50-3649. In addition, please credit any overpayments related to any fees paid in connection with the accompanying amendment to Deposit Account No. 50-3649.

PATENT
Serial No. 09/787,339
Amendment in Reply to Advisory Action mailed on April 12, 2005

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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April 19, 2006

Enclosure: New Abstract

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